

Kansas State University Libraries

New Prairie Press

Academic Chairpersons Conference
Proceedings

33rd Academic Chairpersons Conference,
Charleston, SC

A Framework for Relevancy in Academic Departments

Ann Singleton

Union University, asinglet@uu.edu

Michele Atkins

Union University, matkins@uu.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://newprairiepress.org/accp>



Part of the [Educational Leadership Commons](#), and the [Higher Education Administration Commons](#)



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 License](#).

Recommended Citation

Singleton, Ann and Atkins, Michele (2016). "A Framework for Relevancy in Academic Departments," *Academic Chairpersons Conference Proceedings*. <https://newprairiepress.org/accp/2016/Evaluation/3>

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences at New Prairie Press. It has been accepted for inclusion in Academic Chairpersons Conference Proceedings by an authorized administrator of New Prairie Press. For more information, please contact cads@k-state.edu.



A Framework for Relevancy in Academic Departments

Ann Singleton
Michele Atkins

Union University
Jackson, TN

Session Agenda & Outcomes

- ▶ Defining Reality
- ▶ Introduce the Framework of Relevancy
- ▶ Story Time
- ▶ Examining & Applying the Framework of Relevancy
- ▶ Assessing the Effectiveness of Your Framework

A photograph of a snowy mountain landscape. In the upper right, a small wooden cabin with a white door and a chimney is visible. A person in a red jacket is walking on a snowy path in the middle ground. The foreground is a steep, snow-covered slope. The background is a dense forest of evergreen trees.

**How is your department limited
by its current perception?**

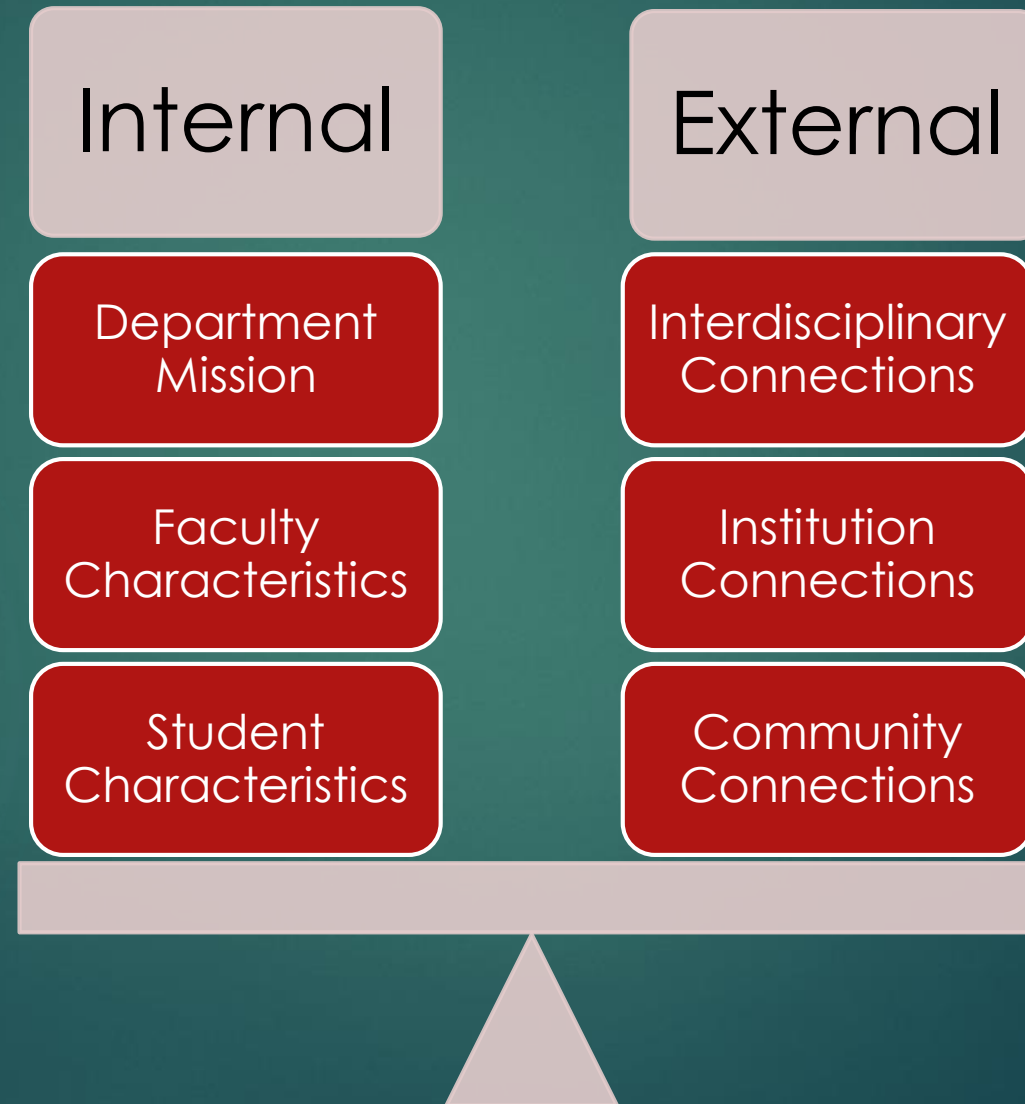
Perception and Reality



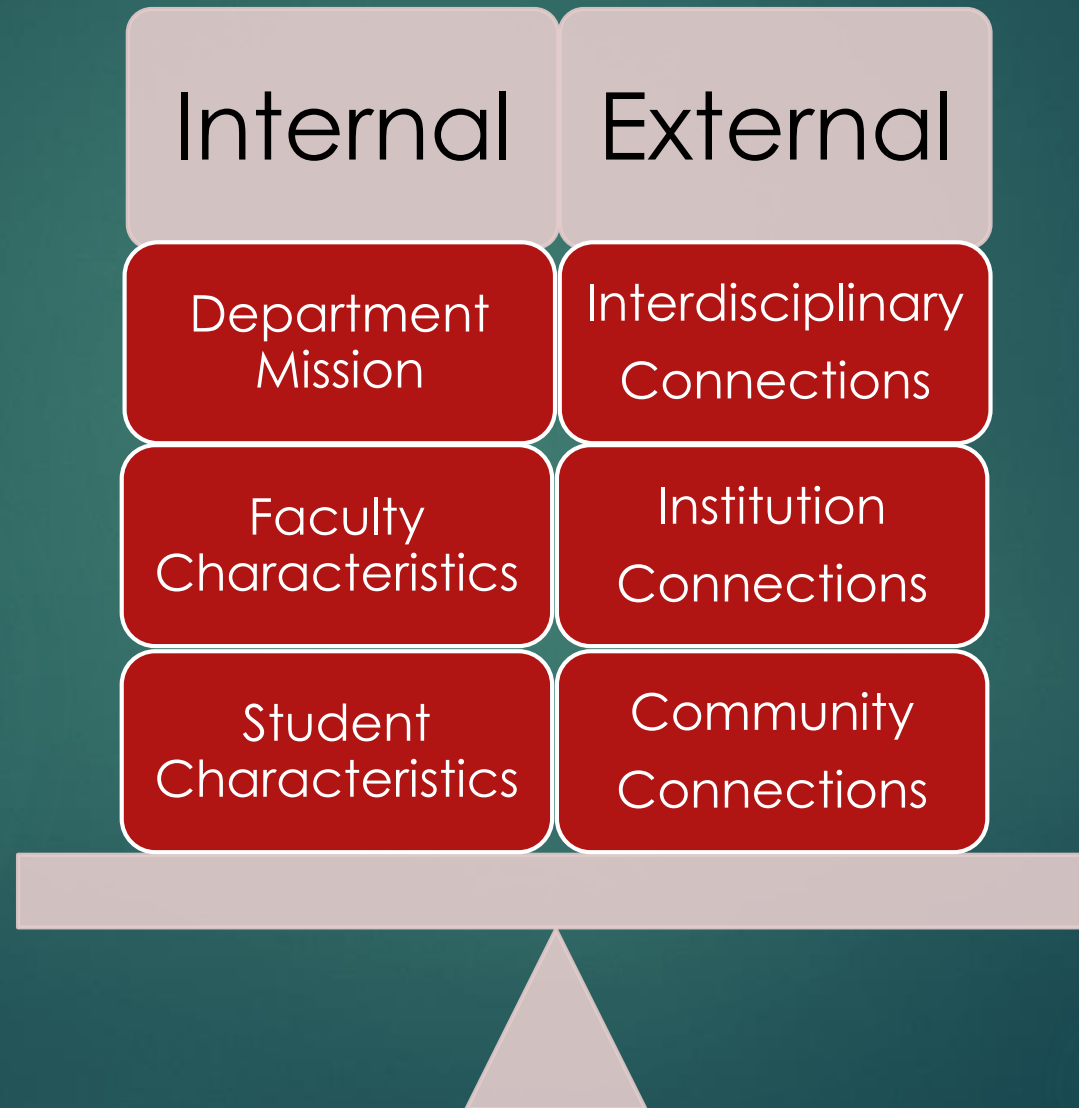
*“The power of a group is its
ability to define reality.”*

Conrado Gempesaw
Provost, Miami University
Lily Conference, 2013

Components of Reality for Academic Chairs



Components of Reality for Academic Chairs

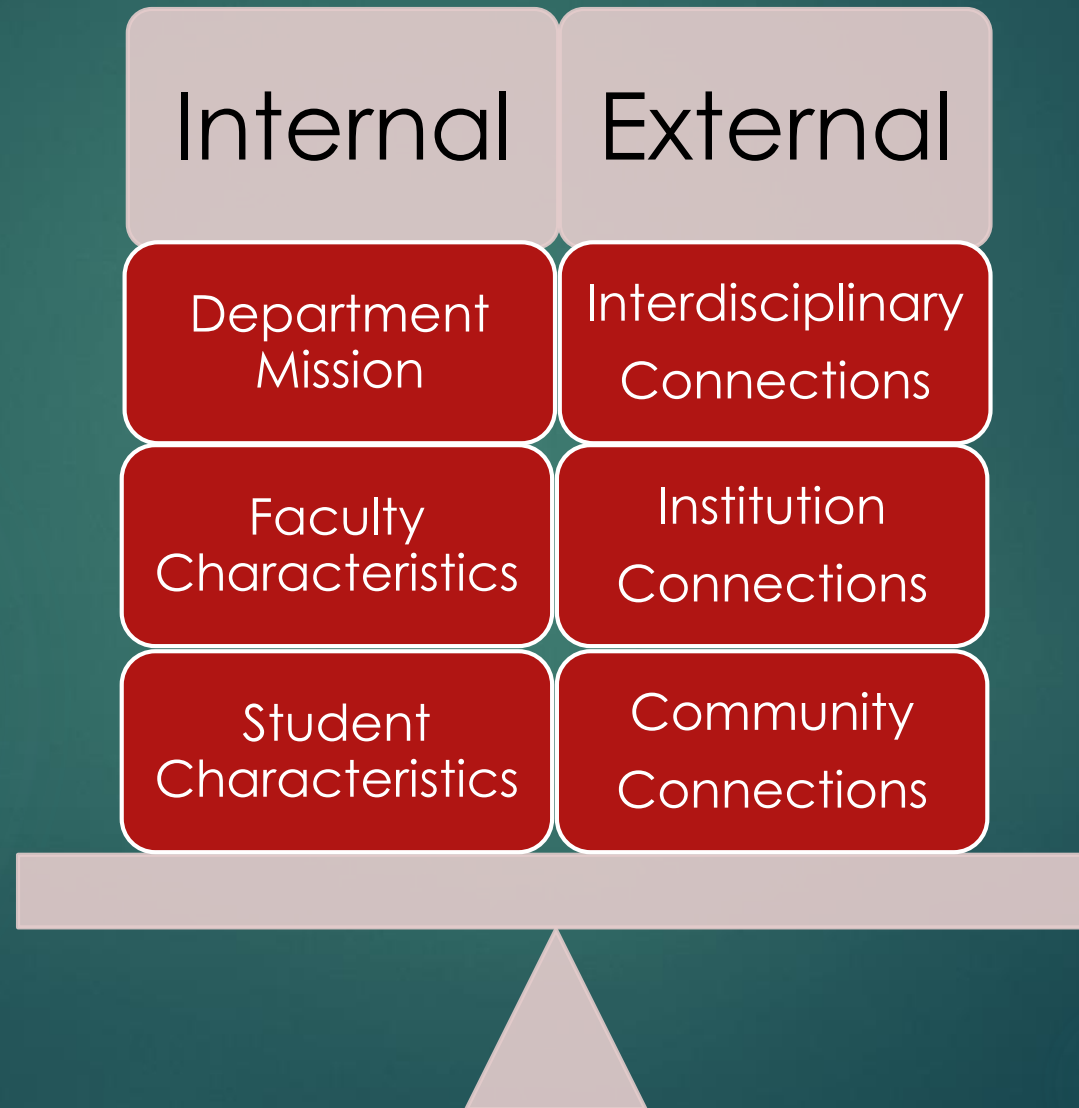


A wide-angle photograph of the Union University campus. In the foreground, a low stone wall with the words "UNION UNIVERSITY" carved into it sits on a grassy area. Behind the wall, several red brick buildings with white trim are visible. A central clock tower with a green roof stands out. A large, vibrant rainbow arches across the sky above the buildings. The sky is blue with some white clouds.

Reality Check:

**The Story of Union University's
Teacher Education Initiative**

Components of Reality for Academic Chairs



Department Mission



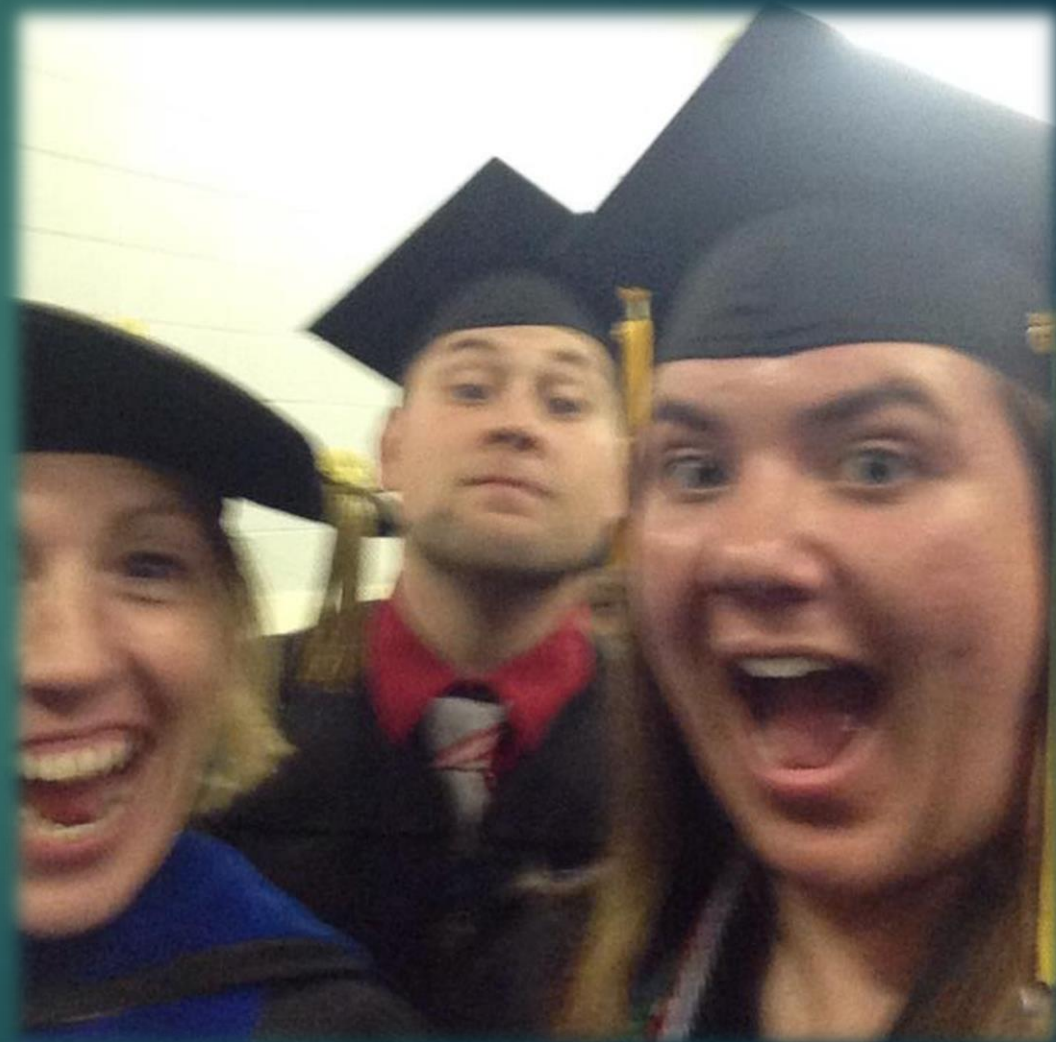
- ▶ What is the purpose of your department?
- ▶ Why do you do what you do?
- ▶ How is the mission statement operationalized?

Faculty Characteristics

- ▶ Individual and collective strengths?
- ▶ Individual and collective limitations?
- ▶ What motivates and inspires?
- ▶ What irritates?
- ▶ ?

Student Characteristics

- ▶ Intellectual
- ▶ Background knowledge
- ▶ Social/emotional
- ▶ Vocational aspirations
- ▶ ?



Interdisciplinary Connections



What is your interdisciplinary value added?

What is your department's interdisciplinary EQ?

?

?

How do other academic departments perceive your department?

Institutional Connections

- ▶ What is your institutional value added?
- ▶ What is your department's institutional EQ?
- ▶ How do others across the institution perceive your department?
- ▶ In what ways does your administration support your department?
- ▶ ?



Community Connections

- ▶ What is your value added?
- ▶ What is your community EQ?
- ▶ How does the community perceive your department?
- ▶ ?



Defining Outcomes

- ▶ What will students **learn** as a result of engaging in the discipline?
- ▶ What will students **value** as a result of engaging in the discipline?
- ▶ What will students be able **to do** as a result of engaging in the discipline?

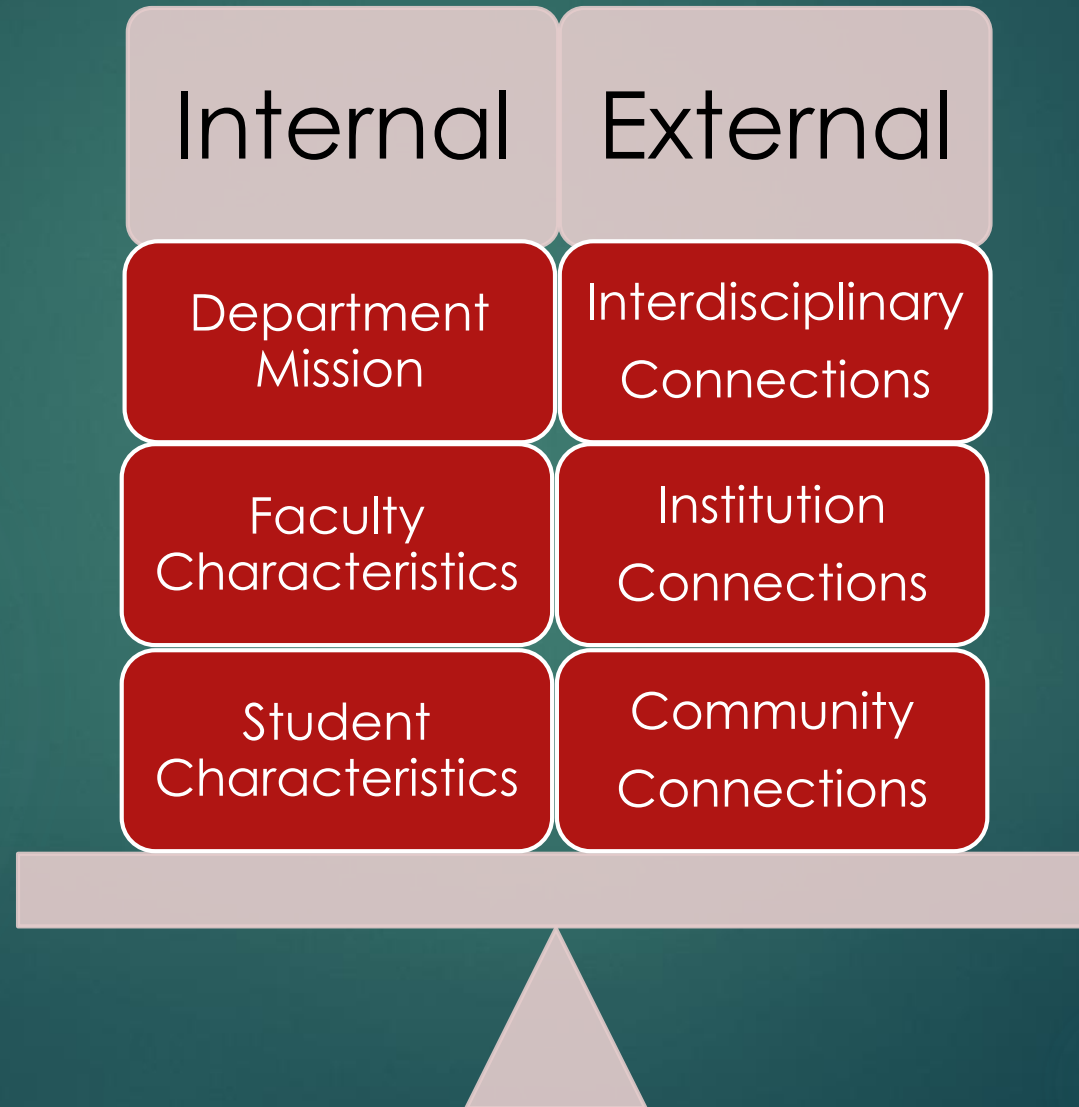
Assessing Outcomes



Assess the Plan



Components of Reality for Academic Chairs





References

- ▶ Berger, W. (2014). *A more beautiful question: The power of inquiry to spark breakthrough Ideas*. New York: Bloomsbury.
- ▶ California State University, Bakersfield. (1999). *PACT Outcomes Assessment Handbook*.
- ▶ Meed, D. (2011). *Start with why: How great leaders inspire everyone to take action*. London: Portfolio.
- ▶ [Warren Macdonald]. (2011, Feb 21). *The Power of Perception – How Deep Does the Rabbit Hole Go?* [Video File]. Retrieved from https://youtu.be/K8fNlZB-1_Q.

Contact Information

Ann Singleton, Associate Provost and Dean of Instruction
Union University, Jackson, TN
asingleton@uu.edu

Michele Atkins, Assistant Provost for Accreditation and Research
Union University, Jackson, TN
matkins@uu.edu